



WEST VALLEY CITY  
Unity Pride Progress

# NEWS RELEASE

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Mike Winder, Mayor, 801-633-1300

## West Valley City Mayor to Present Queen Mother of Tonga with Key to the City

West Valley City – On Wednesday, August 3, at 3:30 p.m., West Valley City Mayor Mike Winder will welcome the Queen Mother of Tonga to West Valley City Hall and will present her with a key to the City. The Queen Mother, Her Majesty Queen Halaevalu Mata'aho, will be in West Valley City to celebrate the rededication of the Tongan United Methodist Church.

"It is an honor to receive the Queen Mother of Tonga to City Hall," said Mayor Mike Winder. "The Tongan community has made tremendous contributions to West Valley City and continues to enrich our community with the warm culture of their friendly islands."

Her Majesty is the mother of His Majesty, King George Tupou V, the current king of the Constitutional Monarchy of Tonga. At 85 years of age, she has long been an advocate for the empowerment of women. She was a founding member of the Regional Steering Committee for Asia and the Pacific on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women, established in 1995; that same year, she led the first Tongan delegation to the Fourth World Conference on Women. Her Majesty continues to preside over Langa Fonua 'a Fafine Tonga, the Kingdom's National Council of Women, and is the president of the Tonga Red Cross and the Tonga Life Line Services.

The Key to the City is an honor bestowed to high-ranking dignitaries and visitors to West Valley City by the Mayor in his role as the City's chief ceremonial officer. In recent years, the Key to the City has also been given to Yeah Samake, Mayor of Ouelesseboungou, Mali; Juan Sabines, Governor of Chiapas, Mexico; and Hillary Clinton, United States Secretary of State during their respective visits to West Valley City.

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